

City of Redmond Parks and Trails Commission

Redmond City Hall
Council Conference Room
Thursday, March 3, 2016

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Parks & Trails Chair and Vice Chair Present

Aaron Knopf
Joel Cherkis

Commissioners Present

Tom Sanko
Heather Sheffer
Tanika Padhye
Gary Smith
Nicholas Lee
Cindy Pauley

Commissioners Absent and Excused

All Commissioners present.

Staff Present

Carolyn Hope, Parks & Cultural Services Division Manager
Dave Tucheck, Park Operations Division Manager
Mark Hickok, Recreation Division Manager
Betty Sanders, Senior Park Planner
Ryan Spencer, Recreation Business Office Administrator
Sharon Sato, Parks Planning & Cultural Arts Office Coordinator

Guests: Gregg Gottgetreu and Shailee Jain

I. Call to order/Welcome

Chair Knopf called the meeting to order welcoming fellow commissioners, guests, and staff members.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Padhye to accept the March agenda
Second by Vice Chair Cherkis
Motion carried: 9-0

Approval of Minutes

Amendments to February 4, 2016 Minutes

- Signature Art Pieces - typographical error in reference to Vice Chair Cherkis' question
- Tree Canopy - language clarification
- Tree Canopy – change language to reflect “any tree 4’ in diameter, 10’ in height)
- Tree Canopy – reword to reflect 37% coverage today to 45% coverage in 50 years
- Eastside Rail Corridor Summit - language clarification in last section of the minutes revise to, “eventually the trails will connect”

Motion by Commissioner Sanko to approve the minutes as amended

Second by Commissioner Smith

Motion carried: 8-0

II. Items from the Audience

None

III. Special Guest: Jason Robertson – Redmond Library Board

Mr. Robertson gave a brief overview of the Library Board's function and elaborated on their interest in partnering with the Parks & Trails Commission.

Partnership Ideas:

- Storytime in the Park
- Movies in the Park
- Library to Go Van – travel to different parks around the city
- Library space – meeting room availability for the Commission to communicate initiatives or ideas (help spread the word through library resources and channels)
- Library programs growing – would like to align with the goals of other boards and commissions within the City of Redmond

Mr. Robertson invited commissioners to attend the Library Board's bi-monthly meeting(s):

- 1st Wednesday of every other month (next meeting, May 4th, 2016)
- 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Redmond Library

The City's Arts Program partners with the library through the Poet Laurette event held in the spring and arts exhibitions in the lobby of the library.

Ms. Hope suggested a joint meeting between the Library Board, Arts & Culture Commission and the Parks and Trails Commission to share current projects, ideas, and have a discussion.

IV. 2015 Volunteer Report – Hickok (handout)

Mr. Hickok reported that volunteer report reflected an increase in volunteer hours since last year; notably in Arts (Lucia Neare performances).

Mr. Hickok emphasized the importance of the volunteer program; one in particular, “Meals on Wheels” where meals are delivered to seniors who are home bound and have little to no socialization. He played a phone message from an elderly woman who had just received her meals from the Meals on Wheels Program saying how grateful she was.

Comments/Questions:

1. Are volunteer’s hours matched by corporate donations?
Yes, (ex. many of the youth basketball coaches are employed by Microsoft)
2. Are commission volunteer hours a part of the report?
Yes
3. Where is information for volunteer opportunities and activities available?
Various places – outreach is segmented per program
4. Do other eastside cities focus on volunteer programs?
Yes, Redmond has a stronger volunteer force
5. Is there a possibility that there are duplicate numbers in the report?
Yes, possible duplicates if volunteer(s) is working on two different volunteer opportunities
6. Can the numbers be shared? Would like to share information to encourage more people to volunteer.
Yes
7. Any big future events coming up that will encourage and allow more volunteer opportunities?
Currently regular events such as Derby Days and So Bazaar which allow for expanded volunteer opportunities.
8. Did we lose funding for Lucia Neare?
Our two year budget was used in one year – Lucia Near’s last performance at So Bazaar, summer 2015.
9. Lots of diversity going on making the volunteer program an opportunity for everyone.

Mr. Hickok reported that the AmeriCorps Program volunteers are approximately 1/2 of the reported Teen Program volunteer hours. Two AmeriCorps volunteers work 40 hour per week for 10 months in the afterschool program in exchange for a scholarship and small living stipend.

In addition, Mr. Hickok stated that the Pony Club at the Farrel McWhirter Farm is a popular volunteer program where youth ranging in ages between 13- 18 years of age,

feed, clean stalls and help with the horses in exchanges for hours on horses, as well as special participation in off-site activities/field trips.

Mr. Hickok will put together a list of volunteer opportunities in Recreation.

V. Recreation Software Roll Out Update - Spencer

Mr. Spencer began by giving a short overview of the functionality of the Recreation registration software (classes, facilities, etc...).

The new registration program (Active Net – transaction based product; fully hosted) will be launched on March 11th. The focus of the new system is the customer interface – user friendly, more intuitive (excellent search capabilities – key words, tag line - program name and description of the program). The program interacts with social media and the log in is email based. Mr. Spencer added that maps have also been added to locate picnic sites locations at and in parks, along with their rental availability (Green – yes, Red – no).

Mr. Spencer explained the costs of the new program in comparison with the existing program.

The Parks and Recreation page on the Redmond.gov site will be built up to host additional community resource information.

There will also be a mobile optimized option for registration.

VI. Project Updates

A. Downtown Park – Sanders (PP)

Ms. Sanders reported that the project is currently at 50% in the design process. She added that the site plan had been updated to make adjustments to allow for cost cutting measures; overall amenities remain intact.

Amenities

- Great Lawn – raised area about 18” off ground – surrounded by a wood ring deck
- Bosk of trees – seating underneath
- Pavilion
- Splash Pad
- Restroom and support building
- Large plaza for events and performances

Ms. Sanders reported that City Council requested that staff look into the historical aspect of Brown Street (currently paved parking area that runs east and west through the park site). Thus far records have indicated that the land was platted in 1800’s and William Brown owned the parcel on the east side of the existing site. Staff is looking into whether the former Mayor Bill Brown was the owner, a

descendent, or the street was named after him after he became the Mayor of Redmond.

Staff has given the Council ideas as to how to recognize the street historically (bronze lettering, craved lettering set into the concrete) once the street is removed. She asked commissioners for their thoughts about these ideas.

Questions/Comments

- Proof that the former Bill Brown was the owner?
No proof to-date
- Cost of options for lettering
Dependent on type and style – etched or bronzed
- What is the story behind the street? Are we missing the deeper meaning?
Council asked staff to investigate the historical aspects – has been on the map for hundreds of years
- If there is a good story there that would make good conversation, without a story there is no conversation
- Memorialize

Downtown Park Restroom/Support Building

- Restroom/Maintenance Building
 - Water tank storage
 - IT space - Storage for digital artwork features
- High windows –privacy
- Frosted glass for light – daylight and early evening light
- Floor plan – restroom on left side/support on the right side
- Hours of operation - undetermined
- Canopy over doors – restroom and support
- Epay wood on benches and deck – slightly grooved to prevent slippage
- Restroom heated
- Five doors across the front
- Metal cladding/polycarbonate – solid wall lighting behind (easy to find the park on Redmond Way)
- Staff is looking into safety and vandalism concerns

Pavilion – Jill Anholt “Reflection”

- Artist is working with fabricator – building mockups – running tests on materials and elements (water on rods, lighting – natural, sun, artificial, reflection off of building to street, sound, etc...)
- Poetic approach – mirroring, contemplation, reproducing, showing
- Latest version from original design slightly different from concept in the master plan
 - Rods around the back (1/2” rod with 2” spacing) – function as water wall – experimenting which surface reflects the digital images the best

- Stage space in middle
- Roof structure – canted 3% (back) - bottom side of the ceiling will be mirrored
- Treatments on floor – special flooring (Terrazzo) potential fundraising opportunity
- Stairs on one side/ ramp on other side of stage
- Extra amenities – potential fundraising opportunity

Questions/Concerns

- Digital images visible in daylight in summer months due to sunlight?
Staff will discuss with artist
- Polished aluminum ceiling surface?
Reflective material

Ms. Sanders will report back to the commission as the project progresses.

B. Recreation Building Updates – Hope (handout)

- **Stakeholder Group**
Ms. Hope reported that based upon the recommendation of the Parks & Trails Commission to the City Council, the Council has approved the formation of a stakeholders group to study the recreation buildings proposals, and assist the city on deciding on a site and funding mechanism for the recreation building(s).
- The Council committed a \$100K investment in the pool to keep it running on a temporary basis. All future re-investment will be discussed when or if deemed necessary and when/if future requests are made for more repairs
- April 26 - The LWSD has a ballot measure going before the public – if the ballot measure passes the LWSD is likely to terminate the lease of the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center (ORSCC) with the City of Redmond. If that happens, the City will work with the LWSD on a timeline and exit strategy. Mr. Hickok is working on an exit plan for staff and programs.
- On-going - the City Council will be holding more discussions on the recreation building/aquatic center.

Ms. Hope asked commissioners to participate as part of the stakeholders group and in addition spread the word that they are looking for a variety of individuals to be part of the group (adults, youth, seniors, and all backgrounds).

Comments/Questions

Chair Knopf- recommends the invitation be open to everyone and not appointing specific commissioners to the group(s), rather commissioners apply; a more fair and equitable process

Commissioner Sheffer – valuable input would be outside of the commission; these are the voices that need to be heard and are important.

Commissioners agreed that at least one member of the Parks and Trails Commission should be part of the group. The time commitment would be one meeting a month for one year.

Commissioner Response:

- Commissioner Sanko – need broad involvement from the community – very interested – have been involved in the conversation for some time now
- Commissioner Padhye – interested
- Commissioner Lee – not at this time, but am interested in the process
- Commissioner Smith – have two people in mind
- Vice Chair Cherkis – not at this time/can sit in on public discussion
- Commissioner Sheffer – defer to Commissioners Sanko and Padhye, will fill in if necessary
- Chair Knopf – interested but defer to Commissioners Sanko and Padhye
- Commissioners Sanko and Padhye will represent the commission.

Ms. Hope noted that commissioners can join the stakeholders group as private citizens.

Commissioners then discussed what the outcome would be if the Hartman Pool failed completely.

Facilities Assessment – Hope

Ms. Hope reported that the city departments are collaborating on a Facilities Strategic Management Plan (FSMP). She noted that previously a consultant had been hired (Meng Associates) to assess all city facilities and their conditions. They gave a systems assessment, replacement and catastrophic events, and cost estimates. The current facilities assessment is more indepth and detailed analysis of systems and structures (function and uses) and in addition; answers the questions – “What are the city’s needs for facilities?”, “How are we using the facilities today?”, ”Where should they be?” and “What is the long-term maintenance plan/facilities management plan?”. This plan will proactively help identify Capital Improvement Projects. The FSMP will also provide value insight and information to the Recreation Facilities Stakeholders group.

In addition, Ms. Hope reported that the city had re-bid the RCC Ph. II and bids had come back favorably (lower than previous estimates). The contract will be going to City Council on March 15 and construction will begin in April. 80% of the funding comes from grants for this project. The projected completion date is December of this year.

VII. Budget Update – Hope (PP)

- **Schedule – Biennial Budget Rollout**

Ms. Hope reported that staff has been working to finalized the Capital Improvement Program which will go before Council in April for review.

Process Overview:

- Staff has been working on their General Fund Budget offers
- Currently in meetings to decide how they will form the offers
- April - submit to the Results Team - RT (the RT members are from various departments within the city) to comment and review (evaluate the value of the offers)
- Comments back to offer writers
- July - Re-submit offers
- Results Team ranking again
- Submit recommendations to Director's Team and Mayor
- October/November – City Council Study Session budget discussions
- December 6 - approval

Six Key Priorities

- Clean and Green
 - Community Building
 - Business Community
 - Safety
 - Responsible Government
 - Infrastructure
-
- **EMS Community Survey Results**
 - Telephone survey
 - Methodology – dates, total interviewed, margin of error, location of interviewers
 - Voters in 45th and 48th legislative district and city limits
 - Topics
 - Direction of Redmond/by year
 - Most Important Problem (MIP)
 - Most Important Problem by Geography/by year
 - Best thing about living in Redmond/by year
 - Worst thing about living in Redmond/by year
 - Quality of life in Redmond/by year
 - City job ratings
 - City job ratings/year
 - Safety in Redmond
 - City priorities
 - City priorities/by year
 - City of Redmond's current priorities
 - Satisfaction with city services
 - Transportation system ratings
 - Transportation system ratings/MIP

- Overall travel experience satisfaction
- Overall travel experience satisfaction/demographic split
- Information sources/by year

Ms. Hope explained Budgeting by Priorities as:

- Zero based budgeting
- Priorities of the city
- Based on - Are we doing things that are important to the community, How are we measuring our success with that, and do we deserve to be funded again and at what level and what are we going to do differently or identical?

VIII. Parks and Trails Commission Events

- Save the Date

National Trails Day

Saturday, June 4, 2016

Work Party - Improve the Collins Creek Trail (Watershed)

Need 30 volunteers

Staff will provide marketing materials for the event.

- Sr. Advisory Committee Potluck/Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 2016

Potluck

Redmond Sr. Center

May 18 – Field trip

- PARCC Plan - Community Outreach

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Brief presentation and survey

Hosted in Council Chambers, Online, and on website

Discussion based on: “We heard this; We did this”

Commission volunteers:

- MC – Aaron Knopf and Jane Wither (Arts & Culture Commission)
- Need volunteers for logistics (email Ms. Hope)

- RCC II Work Party

Saturday, March 26, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Off of Willows Road, between the Puget Power Trail and NE 95th Street

Email or call Dave Shaw for information – dashaw@redmond.gov or 425-556-2378.

- New Parks & Recreation Director Search
Ms. Hope reported that Maxine Whattam was confirmed by City Council as the new Parks & Recreation Director on Tuesday, March 2. Ms. Whattam comes to Redmond from Kennewick, where she had been the Director. Ms. Whattam worked in the Tri-Cities for 20 years in a variety of positions before becoming their Parks & Recreation Director. Ms. Whattam will start on Monday, March 7th.
- Redmond Youth Summit
Tuesday, March 8, 2016
8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

Commissioners Smith and Padhye will attend and report back at the April meeting.
- Downtown Projects Open House
Red 160
Thursday, March 10, 2016
4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Hosted by City of Redmond Public Works Department – other city staff will attend to answer any questions related to the Downtown area, Downtown Park and programming
- Urban Wildlife Refuge
 - New program started by the Dept. of Interior to study, protect and replenish Kokanee in Lake Sammamish
 - One of eight urban areas named as an Urban Wildlife Refuge (named last year)
 - Four cities around the lake – Redmond, Bellevue, Sammamish, Issaquah
 - Redmond will help fund a wildlife coordinator/ to study the main wildlife
 - Program at Idlywood Park

IX. Commission Talk Time

- 2016 Work Plan Prep and Possible Commission Retreat
 - Off-site meeting to discuss the 2016 Work Plan and other projects
 - Saturday - April or May
 - ½ tour and ½ day retreat
 - Will work off of the 2015 Work Plan
 - Chair Knopf and Vice Chair Cherkis will work on the draft agenda for the retreat and present at April P&T Commission meeting
- Thank You and Goodbye – Commissioner Cindy Pauley
Chair Knopf thanked Commissioner Pauley for her contributions while on the commission. Commissioner Pauley thanked the commission and when asked if she had any suggestions, she responded that giving new members an overview of

the current issues and history and status of projects would immensely help to keep the momentum of the group going.

V. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Pauley

Second by: Commissioner Padhye

Motion Carried: 8-0

Next Regular Meeting

April 7, 2016

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Council Conference Room

Redmond City Hall